

CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of communication in a data processing system, said method comprising:

at a requestor, buffering a request in an entry of a request queue;

the requestor transmitting the request to a recipient for servicing; and

transmitting a status signal from the recipient to the requestor to signal the requestor to refrain from transmitting requests to the recipient; and

the requestor removing the request from the entry of the request queue without receipt of any indication that the request has been serviced, wherein removing the request comprises:

if said status signal is not received during an interval of at least a latency of said status signal, removing the transmitted request from the entry of the request queue after expiration of said interval.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, and further comprising:

in response to receipt of said status signal during said interval, retaining said request in the entry of the request queue and retransmitting the request from the requestor to said recipient.

5. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein transmitting the request comprises transmitting a plurality of requests including the request for which no request response has been received, wherein said plurality of requests includes a number of requests greater than a number of queue entries for buffering requests at said requestor.

6. (original) The method of Claim 1, and further comprising:

servicing the request and buffering a request response in a queue entry in the recipient;
and

transmitting the request response to a response receiver and removing the request response from the queue entry in the recipient.

7. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein transmitting the request comprises transmitting the request to a memory device.

8. (currently amended) A requestor for a data processing system, said requestor comprising:
a request queue having at least one entry storing a request; and
a request controller that transmits the request to a recipient for servicing and removes the request from the entry of the request queue without receipt of any indication that the request has been serviced, wherein:

the request controller includes means for receiving a status signal from a recipient that signals the requestor to refrain from transmitting requests to the recipient; and

the request controller, if the status signal is not received from the recipient during an interval of at least a latency of said status signal, removes the transmitted request from the entry after expiration of said interval.

9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) The requestor of Claim [[10]] 8, wherein the request controller retains the request in the entry of the request queue and retransmits the request to the recipient in response to receipt of said status signal during said interval.

12. (currently amended) The requestor of Claim [[1]] 8, wherein the request controller transmits a plurality of requests from said request queue for which no request response has been received, and wherein said plurality of requests includes a number of requests greater than a number of queue entries in said request queue.

13. (original) A data processing system, comprising:
a requestor in accordance with Claim 8; and

said recipient.

14. (currently amended) The data processing system of Claim 13, wherein the recipient comprises a memory device.

15. (original) The requestor of Claim 14, wherein the requestor forms at least a portion of a processor complex.

16. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ data processing system of Claim 13, and further comprising:

a recipient;

a requestor, including:

a request queue having at least one entry storing a request;

a request controller that transmits the request to the recipient for servicing and removes the request from the entry of the request queue without receipt of any indication that the request has been serviced; and

a response receiver to which said recipient transmits request responses, wherein:

the response receiver includes priority logic that outputs an imprecise priority signal indicating at least one preferred type of request response; and

the recipient includes an arbiter that selects request responses for transmission to the response receiver at least partially in response to the priority signal.

17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) The data processing system of requestor of Claim 16, wherein the response receiver includes means for transmitting a status signal to the recipient that signals that the recipient should refrain from transmitting if request responses to cannot be received by the response receiver recipient.

19. (original) The data processing system of Claim 18, wherein the recipient includes a plurality of queue entries for buffering request responses and a recipient controller, wherein the recipient controller removes a transmitted request response from the plurality of queue entries after an

interval of at least a latency of said status signal if said status signal is not received during said interval.

20. (original) The data processing system of Claim 19, wherein the recipient controller retransmits the request response in response to receipt of said status signal during said interval.

21. (new) The method of Claim 6, and further comprising:

the response receiver outputting an imprecise priority signal indicating at least one preferred type of request response; and

the recipient selecting the request response from among a plurality of request responses for transmission to the response receiver at least partially in response to the priority signal.

22. (new) The data processing system of Claim 13, wherein:

the recipient receives from a response receiver an imprecise priority signal indicating at least one preferred type of request response; and

the recipient includes an arbiter that selects request responses for transmission to the response receiver at least partially in response to the priority signal.

23. (new) The data processing system of Claim 16, wherein:

the recipient generate a status signal to signal to the requestor that the requestor should refrain from transmitting requests to the recipient, wherein said status signal has a latency; and

the request controller, if the status signal is not received from the recipient during an interval of at least the latency of said status signal, removes the transmitted request from the entry after expiration of said interval.